

# Ngaanyatjarra dialect

**Ngaanyatjarra** (IPA: [ˈŋeːŋet̪ere]; also Ngaanyatjara, Ngaanjatjarra) is an Australian Aboriginal language. It is one of the Wati languages of the large Pama–Nyungan family. It is one of the dialects of the Western Desert Language and is very similar to its close neighbour Ngaatjatjarra, with which it is highly mutually intelligible.

Most Ngaanyatjarra people live in one of the communities of Warburton, Warakurna, Tjukurla, Papulankutja (Blackstone), Mantamaru (Jameson) or Kaltukatjara (Docker River). Some have moved to Cosmo Newbery and Laverton in the Eastern Goldfields area of Western Australia.

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Ngaanyatjarra	
Native to	Australia
Region	Western Australia; Warburton Ranges.
Ethnicity	Ngaanyatjarra
Native speakers	1,091 <span> </span> (2016 census) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	<div>Pama–Nyungan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wati<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Western Desert<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Ngaanyatjarra</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	ntj
Glottolog	ngaa1240 ( <span>http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/ngaa1240</span> ) <sup>[2]</sup>
AIATSIS <sup>[3]</sup>	A38 ( <span>https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/language/A38</span> )

## Origin of the name

The name *Ngaanyatjarra* derives from the word *ngaanya* 'this' which, combined with the comitative suffix *-tjarra* means "having *ngaanya* (as the word for 'this')". This distinguishes it from its near neighbour Ngaatjatjarra, which has *ngaatja* for 'this'.

## Phonology

### Vowels

	Front	Back
High	<span>i</span> <span>[i]</span> <span>ii</span> <span>[iː]</span>	<span>u</span> <span>[ʊ]</span> <span>uu</span> <span>[uː]</span>
Low	<span>a</span> <span>[a]</span> <span>aa</span> <span>[aː]</span>	

- Before alveolar consonants, the three vowels /i, a, u/ are pronounced as [ɪ, ɐ, ʊ].

- Before velar consonants, the three vowels /i, a, u/ are pronounced as [ɪ, ʊ, o].
- Vowel sounds are rhoticized when preceding retroflex consonants.
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## Consonants

	Peripheral		Laminal	Apical	
	Labial	Velar	Dental/ Palatal	Alveolar	Retroflex
<b>Stop</b>	p [p]	k [k]	tj [t̪]	t [t]	ɖ [ɖ]
<b>Nasal</b>	m [m]	ŋ [ŋ]	ny [ɲ]	n [n]	ɳ [ɳ]
<b>Lateral</b>			ly [ɭ]	l [l]	ɭ [ɭ]
<b>Rhotic</b>				r [r~ɻ]	
<b>Approximant</b>	w [w]		y [j]		ɻ [ɻ]

- Laminal stop sounds are different in the Ngaanyatjarra dialect, in that they are not palatal, but dental, yet they are still orthographically transcribed the same as the other dialects.
- When occurring after nasal sounds, stop consonants become slightly voiced.

## Notes

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## Citations

1. ABoS 2016.
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Ngaanyatjarra" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/ngaa1240>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. A38 (<https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/language/A38>) Ngaanyatjarra at the Australian Indigenous Languages Database, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

## Sources

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- "2016 Census QuickStats: Laverton - Ngaanyatjarraku - Surrounds" ([http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census\\_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/ILOC50300404](http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/ILOC50300404)). Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2016. Retrieved 27 October 2017.
- Glass, Amee; Hackett, Dorothy (1979). *Ngaanyatjarra texts. New Revised edition of Pitjantjatjara texts (1969)* (<https://archive.org/details/ngaanyatjarratex0000glas>). Canberra: Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies. ISBN 0-391-01683-0.
- Glass, Amee; Hackett, Dorothy (2003). *Ngaanyatjarra & Ngaatjatjarra to English Dictionary*. Alice Springs: IAD press. ISBN 1-86465-053-2.
- Douglas, W. H. (1964). *An introduction to the Western Desert language: a pedagogical description of the Western Desert language, based on the dialect spoken at Warburton Ranges, Western Australia*. Sydney: University of Sydney. pp. 10–28.

## External links

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- ELAR archive of [Western Desert Special Speech Styles Project \(http://elar.soas.ac.uk/deposit/0342\)](http://elar.soas.ac.uk/deposit/0342)
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